

BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

February 2006

Internet Address: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock

**Braddock District Council Meeting
BDC Communications Plan/ BDC By-Laws
February 14, 2006 7:30 PM**

Braddock District Meeting Hall
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015 (703)-425-9300

Braddock District Council Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, March 14 – County Budget Presentation

Wednesday, March 29 – CA/HOA Workshop

Tuesday, April 11 - General Membership

Tuesday, May 9 - General Membership

Tuesday, June 13 - General Membership

Tuesday, July 11 – Picnic/BOB Award

Message from the Chair:

By popular demand, I am pleased to announce the Second Braddock District Community Association Workshop. **Save the date of Wednesday, March 29!**

As we did in 2005, we will begin the Workshop at 6:00 p.m. with Registration and Light Supper and then will proceed to Breakout Sessions on specific topics. Working from the evaluation forms of last year's workshop, we will keep the format of offering two sessions for each participant. Among the topics that we are considering are **Volunteerism; Diversity; CERT and Emergency Response; Liabilities and Maintenance Issues Associated with privately-owned and HOA/CA-owned swimming pools; Communications; and Storm Water Facilities and Dry Ponds: Part I—Liability Issues and Maintenance; Part II—Enhancement and Aesthetics.**

Remember, this workshop is designed for your Board members, Committee chairpersons, and Association members. Please make a note on your calendar to save the date and share this information with your membership. We will be getting more details out to you in February including registration information and the final determination of breakout session topics. If you have ideas for topics, please don't hesitate to send them to me.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 14. Bruce Wallachy plans to present the **BDC Communications Plan** for discussion. We also will have a discussion on the **BDC By-Laws**. Several members have taken time to review the by-laws for accuracy and for relevance to current practices and we will want to make some recommendations for amendments at the February meeting.

We **will** have a regularly scheduled March meeting. That meeting, on the 14th, will be devoted to a discussion of the Budget—an important topic for all of us in this legislative year.

I hope that this will be an informative and productive new year for the Council and extend my hope that many of you will be joining us at meetings and at the March Community Association Workshop!

Janyce Hedetniemi

Braddock District Council Officers

Chair, Janyce Hedetniemi

Vice-Chair, Jeff Nolan

Treasurer, Ivan Dietrich

Recording Secretary, Colin Campbell

Communications Chair, Bruce Wallachy

**The Second
Braddock District Council
Community Association Workshop
March 29, 2006 6:00 PM**

Registration, Light Supper, Workshop

**Braddock District Meeting Hall
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015 (703)-425-9300**

Stay tuned for more information about registration and breakout session topics.

SUPERVISOR BULOVA'S CORNER

- In last year's February issue of the Braddock District Council newsletter, I congratulated Council President Jan Heditneimi on the **Community Workshop** that had just taken place. The event had turned out to be a real winner, with professional experts on hand to provide information to civic and homeowner association representatives on a wealth of subjects integral to neighborhood governance. I'm so pleased that the District Council has decided to host a second workshop, on **March 29th**.

The topics this year are critical ones – information regarding proper maintenance and signage for stormwater facilities may save your community from tragic accidents and expensive litigation. Proper landscaping of those same facilities may quiet complaining neighbors and help improve water quality. Learn how some neighborhoods have managed to overcome cultural and language difficulties to recruit newcomers to this country into their boards and committees. I'm looking forward to working with Jan and the BDC to once again bring this outstanding opportunity to community leaders in the Braddock District.

- Last year at this time plans were beginning to come together for what has become a two year focus on the history of the Braddock District area. An incredible amount of progress has been made since then.

In response to a call for volunteers, about thirty people have stepped up to the plate to serve on the ***A Look Back at Braddock*** Task Force. At the Task Force's first meeting on February 1, 2005, a number of ideas were explored for capturing and communicating the history of the Braddock District. The group agreed that the primary product would be a **book of old stories and recollections** focusing on the years just before and during the area's transition from rural to suburban. Material would be gathered through oral history interviews of long time residents of the area. In March of 2005, **Jeanne Niccolls**, Fairfax County Park Authority Collection Manager, provided Task Force members with training on how to conduct oral history interviews.

The group also decided to produce, as a companion to the book, a **history map** depicting the Braddock area during various times in history as well as an electronic “layered” map that would allow a viewer to click on an area of Braddock and see how it has changed over the years. Other deliverables included a short **video about the project** and a **student history paper competition** for middle and high school students.

Task Force members organized themselves into a number of committees. **Mary Lipsey** agreed to coordinate the **Oral History Interview Process**. **Gil Donohue** was appointed chair of the **Historic Materials Collection Committee**. **John Browne** agreed to chair the **Map Committee**, and forged a partnership with **Dr. Sergie Andronikov** of George Mason University’s GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Center and the Fairfax County GIS Department. Lake Accotink’s **Tawny Hammond** and **Lee Ann Shenefiel** teamed up to chair the **Resource Committee**. First **Laura McDowall**, and later **Suzanne Harsel**, chaired the **Student History Competition Committee**. **Marion Meany** became chairman of the **Editing Committee**, tasked with writing the book.

Other members of the Task Force signed on to serve on the various committees, to identify individuals to be interviewed, and to create an **A Look Back at Braddock** display in the Kings Park Library.

More committees were organized as work on the book, video, and maps progressed. American University graduate student **Hassanah Tauhidi** worked with members of the Task Force and Fairfax County Cable 16 crew, **Mike Liberman** and **Patrick Balsamo**, to produce a 17 minute **video**, providing highlights of the oral history interviews. Featured in the video, and later the book, were original sketches by Mary Lipsey’s talented husband, **Chris Lipsey**. With his work collecting and digitizing historic photographs and materials completed, **Gil Donohue** stepped forward to chair the **Publishing Committee**. **Tawny Hammond**, assisted by **Lee Ann Shenefiel**, chaired the Events Committee, to organize activities to debut and showcase **A Look Back at Braddock** products.

Throughout the summer of 2005, our Braddock District conference room became a TV studio with area residents filing through to share their stories. A coat closet was converted into the repository for old photos, scrap books, pieces of broken china and a treasured old doll named Sweetie Pie. By October, over fifty oral history interviews had been conducted, recorded, transcribed and edited. An extensive library of digitized materials was saved onto discs. Early versions of the electronic map were produced, as was the short video.

And so, here we are a year later. Our book writers Marion Meany and Mary Lipsey have almost completed a first draft of the book and we are planning to **debut our finished products at the Lake Accotink Heritage Festival during the first weekend in June.** We are also hoping to host an Anniversary of the Saving of the Oak Hill mansion in Annandale late this fall. ***We could use your help!*** If you’re interested and able to assist with planning and helping with our Heritage Days displays and activities, or with other promotional endeavors during 2006, ***please give my office a call at 703-425-9300 or e-mail us at Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov!***

Sharon Bulova

SPECIAL BRIEFING
By
FAIRFAX COUNTY BUDGET STAFF
For
BRADDOCK DISTRICT RESIDENTS
On the
FISCAL YEAR 2007
FAIRFAX COUNTY BUDGET

Tuesday, March 14th
7:30 P.M.

LOCATION:
Supervisor Bulova's Braddock Hall
(Adjacent to the Kings Park Library)
9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke VA

All are welcome!